

AAW MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Physical

- Hand picking when larvae numbers are few
- Digging a trench and filling with water, not applicable in large area, very labour intensive.

Cultural

- Crops that are 30 cm and above should be kept free from the weeds. Young infested crops should not be weeded.

Natural enemies

- Conservation of parasitoids (wasps and flies) and predators (lacewings, wasps, ants, spiders, beetles, birds and bats) is important to suppress small AAW outbreaks.

Bio-pesticides

- Botanicals/plant-extracts such as Neem and Pyrethrum.
- *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) products registered in Kenya are Dipel, Javelin, Thuricide and Xentari.

Chemical

- It is recommended to use the safer options first before graduating to more hazardous ones as per WHO Classification, where class U is safest and class II is moderately hazardous.

- Some of the recommended pesticides in Kenya are: Lambda - Cyhalothrin (Karate, Duduthrin, tata umeme), Flubendiamide (Belt), Chlorantraniliprole (Coragen), Chlorantraniliprole (Bestox), Indoxacarb (Avuant, Merit).



For Reports Use Kobo Collect Link:
<https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/H3qO7pf2>



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AFRICAN ARMYWORM MANAGEMENT



Introduction

The African armyworm (*Spodoptera exempta* Walker) is a trans-national/trans-boundary migratory pest of economic importance due to its high reproductive capacity, rapid development, high mobility and intensive feeding habit.

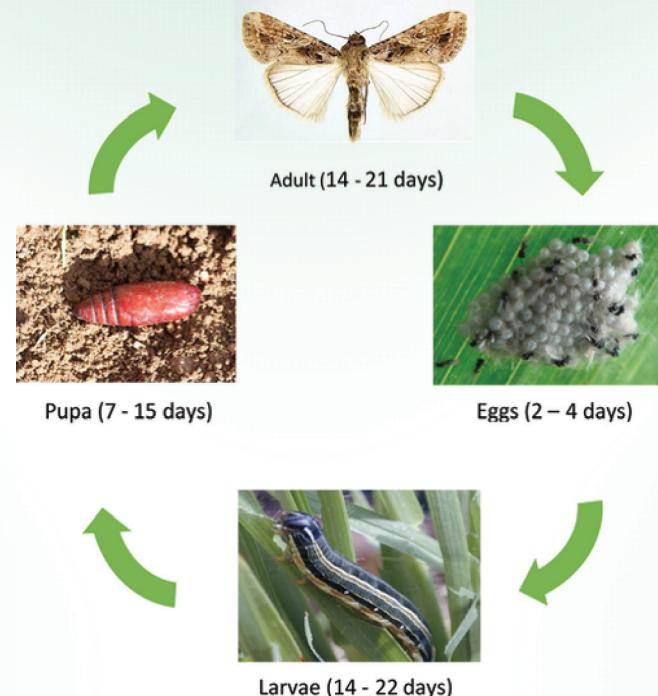
The surveillance, scouting, monitoring, reporting, forecasting, early warning and control operations of AAW are vested on the national government in collaboration with county governments.

The primary host crops are gramineae or grass family like maize, oat, rice, millet, sorghum and pasture



Primary outbreak areas for African armyworm in Kenya:

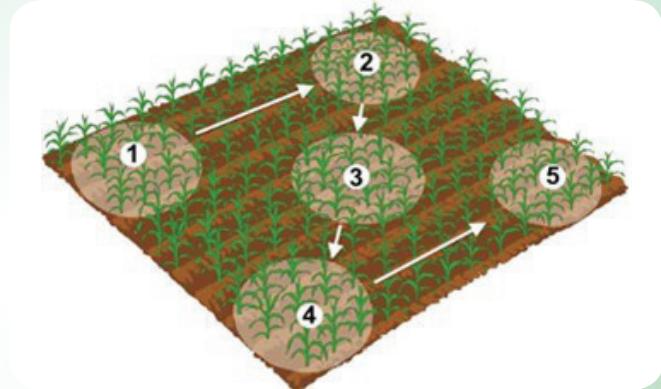
Kwale, Kilifi, Tana River, Taita Taveta, Kitui, Makueni, Machakos, Kajiado, Narok, Nakuru, Murang'a and Tharaka Nithi.



Scouting

Walk through the farm in a "zig-zag" manner checking for signs of the pest (caterpillars) & damage which include;

- Small translucent caterpillars hanging on your crops or grass using silken threads.
- Caterpillars with velvety black, shiny backs, heads with inverted V- shaped marks and white lines along the sides. Windowing and ragged damage on plant leaves or completely eaten young stems. In older plants AAW will completely eat the leaves except the midrib.

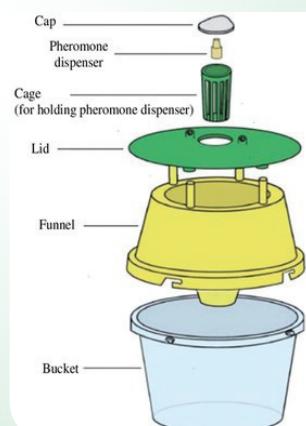


Monitoring

Using a pheromone trap, record moth catches on a daily basis.

- The trap should be placed away from any form of lighting and not masked by trees and branches
- Catches of 30 moths per week is considered as a signal for an outbreak to occur in the next 1 to 3 weeks depending on temperature
- The Country/County should prepare for AAW management

Assembling of trap



Suspended 20 to 70 cm above the crop

